

END COMES SUDDENLY TO KING OF ENGLAND

Had Been Ill For
Few Days Only.

MOURNED BY SUBJECTS

Eldest Son Succeeds to Throne
as King George V.

TAFT CABLES CONDOLENCE

Dead Monarch Had Ruled United Kingdom Wisely and Well For Nine Years—New Ruler Faces Serious Crisis In Governmental Affairs—Roosevelt May Represent Country at Funeral.

London, May 7.—After a reign of but little more than nine years, King Edward VII, one of the greatest kings that ever sat upon the English throne, has followed England's greatest queen to the grave. The end came at Buckingham palace, after a few days' illness, which followed a chill contracted while the king was inspecting improvements made at Sandringham and which settled in the bronchial organs.

When he came to the throne there was a natural tendency on the part of the nation to look back and wonder whether the high level which had been gradually reached and sustained in public and national life during his mother's long reign would be further maintained. The nation today gives a verdict which leaves no doubt of its favorable opinion.

His touching declaration when he took the oath before the privy council that he desired and intended to rule wisely as well as has been made good, and the genuine sorrow with which his loss is deplored is a tribute to his subjects' recognition of the fact that they and the world will long remember his work for peace among the nations and the striking results he achieved therein by his tact and bonhomie.

Knew Social Life of Country.
Far more than his mother he was intimately associated with the social life of the country, without neglecting the immense demands made on his energy by business of state, and it is not too much to say that no English king had ever a deeper hold on the affections of his subjects. His loss to the nation at the moment of a serious constitutional crisis awakes the boding fears of all who have the welfare and dignity of Great Britain at heart. His vast knowledge of men, his singular insight into affairs and his judgment were assets which the nation could little afford to lose. It may be that the burden of anxiety in this connection hastened his end. As Victoria's last hours were crowded by the dark shadow of the South African war, so King Edward in his closing days was harassed by a fierce constitutional conflict, which he bequeaths for solution to a young man far less acquainted than his father with matters of state.

For some time before death came the king was unconscious, lying in a comatose state for a considerable time. He had a slight rally into consciousness between 9 and 10 o'clock. It is understood that the king sent for Sir Ernest Cassel, M. P., and chatted with him for 10 minutes.

Newspapers Turn Rules.
All the London morning papers appear with mourning borders and turned rules. All contain long editorial eulogies of King Edward's character as a man and sovereign. All agree in calling him the world's most famous peacemaker. Among many the following from a Radical newspaper may be quoted as a sample:

"He will live in the memory of his subjects as one who was personally loved and admired because he reflected with strange completeness the ideals of the ordinary British citizen. In all his reign he never struck a false note in appeal, direct or indirect, to the body of the nation. Seriousness of purpose and delicate appreciation of the nature of his high constitutional office were equally remarkable in him."

Editorial references to George V are few and brief. It is recognized that his character and ambitions are almost unknown quantities. It is rumored, however, that he has received all the training in public affairs which it is possible to impart to an heir-apparent, and confidence is expressed that the opportunities of kingship will call forth inherited abilities.

The Times concludes its editorial by saying: "We have lost a great constitutional king. He has left us a successor in whom we may confidently repose trust."

The king died at 11:45, but the

KING GEORGE V

Son of England's Dead Monarch Succeeds to Throne.



news did not reach the public over the tickers until 12:20, when the theater supper cars were just leaving the restaurants. Silence fell upon the crowds, who went sorrowfully homeward. London was anxious all day. The sudden news of the king's grave illness came as a blow because his majesty was reported to have returned from Biarritz in fair health. All day crowds loitered about Buckingham palace and the Mansion House in the city, where the physicians' bulletins were displayed.

It is a coincidence that almost the moment the king died the military guard at the palace was being changed. Thus the soldiers being relieved had mounted the last guard for Edward the Peacemaker and those who succeeded them mounted the first guard for King George V.

Announcements of the death were immediately transmitted to the ministry of foreign affairs and to the home office. The special staff of the foreign office flashed the intelligence

CABLES HIS CONDOLENCE

President Taft Expresses Sorrow to Queen Alexandra.

Washington, May 7.—President Taft sent this message of condolence to Queen Alexandra:

"May 6, 1910.

"Her Majesty, Queen Alexandra,

London:

"On this sad occasion of the death of King Edward, I offer to your majesty and to your son, his illustrious successor, the most profound sympathy of the people and of the government of the United States, whose hearts go out to their British kinsmen in this their national bereavement. To this I add the expression to your majesty and to the new king of my own personal sympathy and of my appreciation of those high qualities which made the life of the late king so potent an influence toward peace and justice among nations."

"WILLIAM H. TAFT."

ROOSEVELT IS MENTIONED

May Be Uncle Sam's Official Representative at Funeral.

Washington, May 7.—The question of appointing a special representative of the United States to attend the funeral of the king was discussed here. In the absence of official information as to the date of the funeral, no plans were made by the state department. It was suggested in official circles, however, that Theodore Roosevelt may be named as the American representative in case the state funeral is held before he leaves England for the United States. If Mr. Roosevelt is not named, Ambassador Reid will probably be designated to attend the funeral as the representative of the United States.

GAMBLE ON KING'S LIFE

Insurance Premiums Jump Skyward as End Approaches.

London, May 7.—The gravity of the king's condition was reflected at Lloyd's exchange in a sudden rise of the premiums demanded to insure his majesty's life. From 6 per cent premium for six months the price rose with a jump after the issue of the 11 o'clock bulletin till later in the afternoon business was executed in a few cases at 50 per cent premium for one month. The insurance was not merely speculative. Said a broker: "There are a large number of people whose incomes are dependent upon the king, and these were responsible for the largest proportion of business."

Latest Photograph of King Edward VII. of England



to the British embassies throughout the world and to the chiefs of the colonial government.

A pathetic incident occurred outside the palace when the death of the king became known. An aged woman knelt on the wet and muddy pavement, lifted up her hands in supplication and prayed for the repose of the soul of the dead sovereign.

The only one of the king's children who was not present at the deathbed was his daughter, the Queen of Norway, who started for London last night and will arrive tomorrow. The Duke of Connaught, the king's brother, with his wife, was also absent.

Prince George Edward Albert, the Prince of Wales, who will succeed to the throne, will be known among the crowned heads of Europe as King George V.

How Parisians Received News.

Paris, May 7.—While Parisians were leaving the theaters the news of the death of King Edward was received, and it spread with lightning rapidity. There was a rush for the British embassy and the palace of the Elysee, from which mounted municipal guards galloped out to convey the news to their chiefs. The central telegraph office was crowded with excited foreign journalists clamoring for communication with England, Germany and Italy. The Paris papers issued no special editions.

The true, the good, the beautiful, are but forms of the Infinite. What, then, do we really love in them but the Infinite?—Cousin.

LIFE STORY OF THE KING

Edward VII, Sovereign of the United Kingdom, Widely Known as the Peacemaker and Edward the Taciturn.

Fashion's Leader, Lover of Sport, Shrewd Politician and Known As the First Gentleman of All Europe.

King Edward the Seventh of the United Kingdom and Emperor of India, one of the best known of the world's monarchs, died in Buckingham palace, where he was born in 1841, in his sixty-ninth year. Educated by private tutors, at Edinburgh university, at Oxford and Cambridge, he lived a prince in the very shadow of the throne an almost uneventful life. While waiting for the scepter and royal robes he had little chance to show what kingly metal was in him.

The world knew him only as a jolly prince, who had done nothing very good nor any great evil. A notable feature of his life was his fondness for sports. He had raced horses, sailed yachts, shot birds, played cards and gambled more or less, and with more or less discretion.

He might have come to the throne as Albert I, starting a new line of kings, but many years ago he an-



QUEEN ALEXANDRA.

Widow of the Deceased Monarch.

nounced that when he ascended the throne he would use his second name, Edward, and be known as King Edward VII in preference to King Albert I. The English people had always looked forward to him as King Edward VII.

It was long the fond hope of Queen Victoria's heart that her son should reign under the title of Albert, the name of his father, her beloved husband. But Albert is a strange name to English ears in the list of royal titles. The prince himself desired to be called Edward. The queen's ministers and the queen's subjects desired it, so at last the mother, so fond of her own way in everything, saw that it were better to yield. But she is reported to have shed tears over it.

Birth of the Prince.

It was on the morning of the 9th of November, 1841, that an anxious group of personages waited in the great rooms of Buckingham palace. They were dignitaries of church and state who had been summoned in accordance with royal etiquette to be present at the arrival of a possible heir to the throne of England. They gathered together in the anteroom close by the queen's bed chamber. Among them were archbishops and bishops, arrayed in silk shovel hats and gorgeous aprons; members of the cabinet, headed by the prime minister; nurses and doctors by the score.

When it was announced that the hopes and wishes of a nation had been fulfilled and that a boy had been born, there was universal gratulation.

A few weeks later, on the occasion of the prince's baptism in the Royal chapel of Windsor, he was shown from the balcony to a huge crowd of persons, who went wild with delight.

The boyhood of the prince was uneventful. His early education was conducted at home under the tutelage of the Rev. H. M. Bloch, rector of Prestwich; Mr. Gibbs, barrister at law; the Rev. C. F. Tarver and Mr. H. W. Fisher. He then studied for a session at Edinburgh and later entered Christ church, Oxford. Here he attended public lectures for a year and afterward resided for three or four terms at Trinity college, Cambridge, for the same purpose.

Among the members of the royal family the Prince of Wales had been called Bertie from his childhood. His father called him by that name; his mother entered it in her daily diary long after he had grown to manhood and became the father of a large family; his wife called him Bertie.

In the summer of 1860 the prince paid a visit to Canada and the United States. Everywhere he was received with boundless enthusiasm. He dined at a ball given in his honor at Washington, where he was cordially welcomed by President Buchanan.

As a social factor in England the prince had always been supreme. Ward McAllister called him "the great social dictator." It was largely through his influence that many Americans—a nation whom he had always liked—received their entrance into the inner circles of the British aristocracy. Nevertheless, the social and fashionable side of his life had been more of a duty than a pleasure to

him. He was always most content when surrounded by a circle of his old friends at his palace, in Sandringham, a small village in the county of Norfolk. There he lived the life of an English country gentleman.

The affection and esteem in which the prince was held were never better exemplified than in December, 1871, when he was attacked by typhoid fever and for some weeks hung between life and death. The anxiety of the public was intense, and the news of his recovery was greeted with great joy.

Later the prince visited India and Ireland, engaged in solidifying the empire. He started intercolonial and international exhibitions. He encouraged and liberally subscribed to public charities. He was a liberal patron of art and of the drama. It is impossible to overestimate his power as a social factor. He dictated fashions and dominated manners. On him fell the full responsibility of the arrangements for the celebration of his mother's jubilee in 1887.

Edward's Spouse.

In 1862, accompanied by Dean Stanley, he made a journey to the east, including a visit to Jerusalem. The young prince was now of a marriageable age. Speculation was rife as to who would be the lady of his choice. The question was settled in the early part of 1863, when his engagement was announced to Princess Alexandra, the eldest daughter of the king of Denmark. She was three years younger than the prince and, though comparatively poor, was beautiful and accomplished. The marriage was celebrated in St. George's chapel, Windsor castle, on March 10, 1863.

All England rejoiced over the event. Tennyson, who had just been made poet laureate, wrote one of his fine poems, "A Welcome to Alexandra," on this occasion. The princess soon made herself very popular with all classes of the British public, not only by her outward grace of manner, but also by her virtues and amiability. The prince himself had always shared in this popularity, although the sterner puritanism of his potential subjects had often been shocked by stories of his dissipation.

Two Notable Events.

It is impossible not to mention two notable things—the baccarat scandal and the death of the prince's eldest son and his heir, the Duke of Clarence. The card scandal came up in the winter of 1890 while the prince was visiting Mrs. Arthur Wilson at Tranby Croft. Sir William Gordon-Cumming, a cavalry officer of good family, was charged with cheating. It was said that he increased his stake after seeing that the cards were in his favor. It was a famous trial; the prince was a witness, and Sir Wil-



DUCHESS OF FIFE.

Eldest Daughter of King Edward. Ham Gordon-Cumming lost. He married the daughter of an American millionaire, Miss Garner of New York, and retired into private life.

Two years later the Duke of Clarence fell a victim to the grip. It was a great blow to both the prince and princess, a bereavement from which they never fully recovered. After the funeral the prince retired to the deep privacy. It was many months before he could take up his public duties.

No political party had ever been able to rightly claim the king of England as an adherent, or even as an active sympathizer. He had always managed to keep conspicuously clear of party or sectional interests.

Head of Free Masons.

In 1868 the late king of Sweden initiated Albert Edward into the mysteries of Free Masonry. His father had refused to associate himself with the craft, but the prince had views of his own. In 1875 he was elected grand master of England. At one Free Mason dinner, when the prince presided, the list of subscriptions reached the enormous sum of \$250,000, the largest amount ever raised at a festival dinner.

On Aug. 9, 1902, following the death of Queen Victoria, the prince was crowned king, his coronation having been postponed from June 26 because

of illness. The coronation was one of the most notable events of modern times.

Americans knew the king as a game sportsman. He began that career early. When he was only 15 years old, accompanying his father on deer stalking expeditions, he was the best shot in his family. In manhood the royal colors—purple, gold band, scarlet sleeves and black velvet cap with gold fringe—was a familiar sight on all British race courses of the first class. His name often stood high in the list of winning owners. He was generally agreed to be a capital judge of a horse. His greatest triumph was the winning of the Derby by Persimmon in 1896.

Edward the Taciturn.

Were the titles of earlier centuries still popular he might go down in history as Edward the Peacemaker, or he might be known as Edward the Taciturn. He turned the traditional enmity of France toward England into something like a real friendly understanding; he brought about better relations with Spain and between France and Spain. He won the friendship of Italy. He brought England and Russia into close relations after Russia's defeat by the Japanese, and after accomplishing the feat of isolating Germany, through this chain of international "understandings" when Germany was generally regarded as the most likely of all the powers to precipitate a war, he rounded up his work by endeavors that were more or less successful to bring about more friendly feelings between England and Germany itself. Never seeking to diminish the might of England, he was aided in his peace missions by the personal popularity he had attained in his travels as Prince of Wales when people often handed the phrase once applied to George IV, and spoke of Edward—Albert Edward as he then was—"the First Gentleman of Europe."

The queen died at Osborne, Isle of Wight, on Jan. 22, 1901, at half-past six in the evening, and Edward took the oath the next day before the privy council and proclaimed king.

Crisis of King's Career.

In the last few months King Edward figured in the most momentous crisis of his career and took a positive position in it. It was in February.

EVENTS IN KING'S CAREER.

- 1841—Born in Buckingham Palace.
- 1847—1860—Educated by private tutors and at Edinburgh university, Oxford and Cambridge.
- 1849—Created Earl of Dublin.
- 1860—Travels through Canada and the United States.
- 1861—Joins the army at Curragh Camp, Ireland.
- 1862—Tours the Orient and the Holy Land.
- 1863—Takes seat in the House of Lords.
- 1863—Marries Princess Alexandra, daughter of the king of Denmark.
- 1864—Prince Albert Edward, heir to the throne, born; died in 1892.
- 1865—Prince George Frederick Albert, heir apparent, born.
- 1872—Stricken with typhoid.
- 1874—Installed as Grand Master of the Free Masons.
- 1875—Tours the Indian empire.
- 1892—June 26—His coronation postponed because of illness.
- 1892, Aug. 9—Postponed coronation takes place.

ary of this year that he showed he had a mind and a will of his own. The occasion was the opening of parliament after the elections which resulted from the action of the lords in throwing out the budget, an election at which, in addition to the question, the whole matter of the lords' prerogatives as affecting legislation, was brought up and discussed.

The country gave the government a majority, but when he came to open parliament the king, for the first time in the modern history of England, refused to identify himself with the policy of his ministers. Edward, while by his acts and words proclaiming himself a constitutional monarch, declined to subscribe to a fundamental change in the British constitution, the proposed shearing of the hereditary legislative power of house of lords. His act set all England agog, and lay in inserting in the speech from the throne, prepared for him by the ministers, the phrase "in the opinion of my advisers."

Exceeded Expectations.

King Edward on the throne did not only fulfill the expectations often voiced in the realm during his long years as heir apparent; he excelled in his services as monarch the hopes that were based on his engaging personality, his sense of the dignity of kingship, from which he never permitted a lapse even in his most democratic moments, and his wide experience of public affairs and general sound sense. In his short reign of little more than nine years, he set his stamp on the face of Europe and in a general way on the affairs of the world. Although the constitutional sovereign of the United Kingdom has less actual power than the president of the United States, Edward by his tactful activity, large views and keen interest in public matters, wrought new alliances of friendship and of policy, and made peace where there was actual friction and where war was often looked for. He did this to the intense satisfaction not only of England, but of the greater part of the world.

The king is survived by Queen Alexandra and four children. The latter include Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert, prince of Wales,

who succeeds to the throne; Princess Louise, wife of the Duke of Fife; Princess Victoria and Princess Maud, now queen of Norway. Edward had six children.

As prince he had to serious work to do and devoted himself to a life of pleasure. As king a heavy responsibility was placed upon him, and he proceeded with dignity and ability to discharge his obligations. Many of his old associates were cast aside. Immediate provision was made for the payment of his debts and it was reported two or three years after the beginning of his reign that he had wiped out all claims against him.

Military operations during his reign were limited to the expedition against



PRINCESS VICTORIA.
Second Daughter of Dead Monarch and Her Mother's Favorite.

Tibet and fighting with natives in South Africa and on the frontier of India. Otherwise England has been at peace with all the world.

King's Fatal Illness.

King Edward's fatal illness came just about a year after the first serious reports concerning his health had become current on both sides of the Atlantic. In the spring of 1909 he went to Biarritz, France, where he had often gone before. But after he had been there a little while the word came out this time that his step was no longer elastic, that he kept much to himself permitting no one outside of his suite to dine with him except Mrs. George Keppel, and that for the first time he had gone to Biarritz not for a holiday, but by direction of his physicians, who were concerned over his health. However, the king returned to London in due time, and so far as the world has been allowed to know had a normal year thereafter.

This spring he went again to Biarritz, and again reports came out from there that his health was far from good. The reports received a certain sort of non-official confirmation when the king abandoned his announced purpose to go with Queen Alexandra on a yachting cruise in the Mediterranean, on the return from which, it was said, he purposed paying with the queen a return visit to King Manuel of Portugal. The next news that the world got after the king had gone back to London was on May 5, when the dispatches announced that he was unable to go to the railway station to meet the queen on her return from a visit on the continent.

From a political and other points of view the death of the king is regarded as particularly disastrous. The greatest constitutional crisis in generations hangs over Great Britain. King Edward was familiar with all the features of the situation, which will be particularly trying to his successor, who upon the threshold of his reign will be called upon to deal with the question of employing the authority of the crown to curb the peers' powers.

New King and Queen.

George Frederick Ernest Albert, the second and eldest surviving son of the late King Edward VII, has long been known as the Duke of York. He has also been called "the sailor prince," from the fact that he had a naval career.

He was born June 3, 1865. The young prince, like his brother and sisters, was brought up with the most studied simplicity both in London and at Sandringham.

The Duchess of York, his wife, was formerly the pretty Princess May of Teck. The marriage has been very happy, and this royal couple are probably the most democratic of their kin in Great Britain. They have three pretty children, two of whom are princes.

Queen Mary, whose full name is Victoria Mary, was destined for a throne from her birth. She was born in the royal palace of Kensington on May 26, 1867. She is the mother of six children.

The new king and queen are very devoted, and are seen everywhere to gether. Queen Mary is pretty, a great lover of her home, and is thoroughly English in her thinking and tastes. She knows no other language.

The only cause for difference between the new rulers is that King George says his wife gives away every cent she has. She has started a nurses' home, a home for cripples, supports scholarships in schools for girls and has two secretaries to look after her general charities.

As a mother she is ideal. Her children were reared and educated as befit their station, and their discipline is a matter of comment in England. She is a thoroughly practical woman, fond of the best literature and an accomplished musician.